GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4387
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2001
ECONOMIC SURVEY
RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any alternative Economic Survey for the year 2000-2001 was conducted in the country;

(b) if so, whether the above survey has got the support of the academicians, financial experts, journalists, social workers and labour organisations of the country; (

(c) whether as per the survey, only three percent people of the country have been benefited as a result of the economic reforms during the last ten years;

(d) if not, the reaction of the Government thereto and;

(e) the Government assessment in regard to the number of people benefited due to the economic reforms during the said period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN TH MINISTRIES OF PLANNING, STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) and (b) : An `Alternative Economic Survey 2000-2001, Second Generation Reforms :Delusion of Development` has been prepared by Alternative Survey Group and published by Rainbow Publishers Limited, Lokayan and Azadi Bachao Andolan, has come to the notice of the Planning Commission. There is no information on whether the survey hasthe support of academicians, financial experts, journalists, social workers and labour organizations of the country.

(c): In an essay on `The Macro View` of the Alternative Economic Survey,it has been stated on page 23 that, ` It is said that globalisation is inevitable and India has lagged behind other countries because in the past it had globalised fast enough (or some say, because it was closed till 1991). It is argued that there is no alternative (TINA). Thequestion is from whose point of view are these policies inevitable? If only a minority (3 per cent) is going to benefit from these policies and vast majority are going to lose out then in a democracy can the TINA argument be acceptable?`

(d): The statement from the survey is conjectural and no basis for this estimate has been given. Therefore, no view can be taken by the government on this estimate.

(e): It is difficult to assess the number of persons who have benefited due to economic reforms. However, according to the latest available estimate the per capita income has increased from Rs. 7321 in 1990-91 to Rs. 10561 in 2000-01, at a growth rate of 3.7% per annum.